

## The Watchman and Southern

Entered at the Postoffice at Sumter, S. C., as Second Class Matter.

## PERSONAL

Mr. J. G. Crawford and family spent the week end in Florence with relatives.

John Hayworth has received an honorable discharge from the 30th Division and arrived home Tuesday afternoon.

The many friends of Sgt. Joel G. King, who has just returned with the 30th Division from overseas, will be glad to learn that he received his discharge yesterday, and is now at home with his mother, Mrs. W. C. King.

Mrs. A. F. Jones is in the city visiting her brother, Sgt. Joel G. King. Major Emile P. Moses, U. S. Marine Corps, is in the city for a few days visiting his mother, Mrs. Altamont Moses, before going to the Hawaiian Islands, where he will be stationed.

Misses Katie and Arabella Moses, of Washington, D. C., are visiting relatives in the city.

Miss Lucille Bracey spent the week-end in Columbia, going from there to Charleston to visit Magnolia Gardens.

Dr. and Mrs. L. George Corbett, of Greenville, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Rowland.

Bishop J. J. Monaghan, of Wilmington, Del., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Neill O'Donnell.

The Rembert dramatic club will give a play, "The Elopement of Ellen," on Friday evening, April 11th, at 9 o'clock. The public are cordially invited.

## Cotton Delegates

## Elected

## Sumter County Farmers Are United in Support of The Acreage Reduction Movement

The meeting of cotton farmers and business men called by County Chairman Jennings of the Sumter County Cotton Association to elect delegates to the State-wide Cotton Convention in Columbia Thursday was held at the Chamber of Commerce today with representative attendance of farmers from all sections of the county in attendance. There were also a few business men of the city present, but all who attended are directly interested in cotton farming.

The meeting was organized by the election of Mr. T. J. Kirven as chairman and Mr. H. J. Myers secretary. The results of the campaign to secure pledges for the reduction of the cotton acreage were discussed and the general outlook for the success of the reduction movement was canvassed. While the canvass of the county had not been completed and the canvass has not been as thorough as desired and hoped for, the results attained in the sections covered by pledge reduction committees have been decidedly satisfactory and distinctly encouraging. Not counting the pledge reports turned in today by committees, which had not been tabulated, a reduction of 27 per cent of the acreage of the farmers signing pledges was shown. The opinion of those present was that the reduction of cotton acreage for the whole county will be not less than 25 per cent, perhaps 30 per cent and that there will also be material reduction of the fertilizer used per acre.

It was decided to continue the canvass for reduction pledges and that an effort be made to complete the canvass in every section of the county. A resolution was adopted that the committees be requested and urged to press the canvass with unremitting vigor and that the effort be made to see and secure a pledge from each and every farmer in the county. A final report of the canvass will be made to the county chairman at a meeting to be called at a time to be designated by him. In the meantime reports of pledges are to be made at intervals to the county chairman as heretofore.

The following delegates were elected to attend the State convention in Columbia tomorrow: L. D. Jennings, J. H. Myers, A. C. Phelps, W. T. Brown, J. D. White, J. B. Britton, A. E. Aycock, T. J. Kirven, H. T. Edens, H. G. Osteen, J. M. Fogel, J. F. Williams, M. L. Moore, C. G. Rowland, H. M. McLaurin, Darby White, D. L. Smith, W. E. Kolb, S. A. Harvin.

## Death.

Mr. Wm. M. Terry, a brother of Mrs. W. D. Flits of this city, died at his home, Blackville, S. C., on March 28th. He was buried at Fairfax, S. C., his former home.

**Health Survey and Rural Nurse Fund.**  
Previously published from white citizens.....\$1,081.25  
F. A. Stuckey, Mayesville.....5.00  
Previously published from colored citizens.....481.12  
Lincoln Colored school.....10.00  
County Board of Education.....250.00

Total from all sources.....\$1,827.47  
E. I. Reardon, Treas.

## The Next Lyceum Attraction.

In order not to conflict with any of the religious services of the city the time for the next Lyceum attraction will be at 9.15 next Wednesday evening at the Girls' High School. This attraction comes with the personal indorsement of Mr. Meritt Craft, Southern Manager of the Red-path Bureau. Not a single member of the Sumter Lyceum should fail to be present next Wednesday evening at 9.15.

The next Lyceum attraction will appear at the Girls' High School Wednesday, April 9th.

The jury in the case of Calhoun vs. Southern Railway returned a verdict Wednesday afternoon in favor of the plaintiff for \$25,000—\$10,000 actual damages and \$15,000 punitive damages.

## An Appeal in Behalf Of Suffering Millions

## The Chairman Of The Jewish Relief Work in Sumter County Appeals To The Citizens Of Sumter County

I was asked by some of my friends to assume the chairmanship in Sumter County for the Jewish Relief work. I did so very gladly, because I feel that the call to service in this particular interest is so imperative as to be irresistible. It is a work in behalf of humanity.

Six million Jews in Poland, Lithuania, Galicia, Palestine, Turkey and Siberia are dying of starvation. Refugees, they wander homeless, hungry, in rags. Their suffering is worse than death—it is the lingering torture of starvation, the piteous tragedy of emaciation, the horrible waiting, in agony of hunger, for the grim reaper to end their misery. These six million despairing souls are totally dependent on American generosity for the bare necessities of life.

What matters it if they do belong to other nations? What matters it if they do live in other climes? Suffering of suffering knows no lines of demarcation. It is enough for us to know that these people are dying day by day, dying amidst such surroundings as to make death a blessed release, dying amidst such misery and suffering as to make the driest crust of bread or a bowl of the thinnest soup a real luxury. Children hold up their wasted palms in daily supplication for a crumb of bread and above their fading eyes the Heavens appear to be but brass—children four or five years of age who have not taken a single step because they are too weak to walk; they are too weak to work; they are too weak even to play. They are dragging their wasted bodies along, perhaps wondering how other children can be happy.

There is nothing on earth half so sad as an unhappy child and I do not believe that the people of America are going to permit these little children to spend lives of misery and die of starvation.

Read the eloquent appeal from Governor Bickett of North Carolina: "In Turkey, in Palestine, in Lithuania, in Russia, in Poland, and in Galicia starvation stares the children of Abraham in the face. Daily Jewish husbands see their wives grow thin and pale and fade away into the Great Silence. Daily Jewish babies tug frantically at breasts that are withered and dry; and above the din of battle is heard once more the voice of Rachael weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted because they are not."

"I call upon the good people of North Carolina to hearken to this cry, to rally to the help of the helpless and once again to show themselves worthy of the high service they are privileged to render. The hounded, hungering Jew may be glad to die. We cannot afford by indifference and inaction to have his blood on our hands."

Read the clear statement of Senator Willard Saulsbury of Delaware: "This is not only a Jewish movement; it is a human movement. It will clothe where clothing is needed and feed where feeding is necessary; it will go wherever the cry of humanity calls it. It is of human beings, for human beings, and by human beings."

Read the appeal of Robert Lansing, Secretary of State:

"For God's sake raise all the money you can—conditions are indescribable. Poland, Lithuania—one million people perishing from hunger and cold—death rate ten per cent—soup kitchens and asylums for aged and children closed for lack of funds—children cannot attend school on account of extreme weakness and lack of clothing. An unexampled catastrophe faces the Polish Jews. America practically sole help."

Read the following letter from an old Baptist preacher eighty-two years of age who has spent sixty years of his life as a missionary among the Indians:

"Dear Sir: I am not a Jew—I am an old worn out Christian Indian missionary—a Baptist. Your God is my God. Your Father my Father. Your people are my Master's people. Your brethren are my brethren. My means are small but my heart greatly rejoices because of this privilege of sending the enclosed one hundred dollars for the relief of the suffering and starving Jews in Europe."

Sincerely,

J. S. Morrow,  
Atoka, Okla.

After reading these four statements, can we still refuse to help?

On next Sunday afternoon at half past three o'clock we expect to have a meeting in behalf of these starving people. I do not entertain the slightest doubt but that Sumter will reach its quota. To do this we shall require money; but we need far more than money the universal expression of a deep and abiding sympathy. Our sympathy will not be measured by the number of dollars that we are able to give; but by our ready response to the call of suffering humanity. Even if one feels that he is unable to give money to this great cause, let him by his presence next Sunday afternoon show that his heart is with those who suffer.

We hope that the meeting on next Sunday afternoon will be such as will make everyone present feel as if it were good for him to have come; for he was thus able to catch the feeling of sympathy and to realize that touch of nature and of humanity that makes the whole world kin.

Knowing the people of Sumter as I do, I feel sure that an appeal of this sort will not fall upon deaf ears or unresponsive hearts.

Respectfully and cordially submitted,  
S. H. Edmunds.

There was considerable frost Tuesday night and early risers report thin ice in exposed places. Irish potatoes and other tender vegetables in gardens were injured, but not to an extent that will necessitate replanting. The weather forecast indicates frost again tonight.

## Will Welcome Soldiers

## Mass Meeting Discusses Programme Submitted by Special Committee

The mass meeting called by President Booth of the Chamber of Commerce to consider plans for properly welcoming the soldiers of this county, who, having completed their term of service in the army, either overseas or at home, are returning home, was in session for several hours Tuesday night in the court room. The attendance was larger than at the previous meeting, but, as President Booth remarked in calling the meeting to order, the interest of the people of Sumter was not as great as the matter for consideration demanded. Dr. Booth stated that, as directed by resolution of the previous meeting, he had appointed a committee to formulate a program outlining the scope of the proposed exercises in honor of the returned soldiers, the committee being as follows: Dr. Walter Cheyne, chairman, E. W. Dabbs, J. Frank Williams, L. D. Jennings, Neill O'Donnell, H. G. Osteen, F. E. Rembert, Mrs. Nina Solomons, Mrs. Horace Harby.

Chairman Cheyne of the committee on program read the tentative program suggested by the committee and the discussion opened. Every section of the program was debated at length and by quite a number of those present. There was considerable diversity of opinion as to the manner in which the people of Sumter should honor the returned soldiers and the matter was fully threshed out. It was the consensus of opinion that it would be impracticable to undertake to make the celebration of a general character for all the soldiers who were called into service from Sumter county, so as to include the negro troops, as well as the white, as the negroes have already undertaken to hold a celebration of their own and have solicited financial assistance from the white citizens, and the celebration that will be undertaken under the auspices of this mass meeting of white citizens will be for the white troops alone. A committee consisting of Messrs. R. D. Epps, Walter Cheyne and Geo. W. Dick was appointed to draft a suitable resolution setting out the object and purpose of the proposed celebration.

The following outline of programme was finally adopted:

1. That a thanksgiving service be held in Sumter on some Sunday, at a place and time to be designated later. That the ministers of the city of Sumter, of every religious denomination be and are designated as a committee, with full power, to arrange for this Thanksgiving service. This service to be participated in by the people of the entire county of Sumter.

2. That a parade be held in Sumter to be participated by every white soldier and sailor from the county of Sumter, of every branch of the military and naval or other service during this war, whether these heroes served at home or abroad. That the commissioned officers of the Sumter Light Infantry Home Guard, the commandant of the Boys' High School Military Battalion, and Major A. C. Phelps be the committee in charge of this parade with full power to act.

3. That the Sumter Light Infantry Home Guard and the Sumter High School Military Battalion be invited to march in this parade as an honorary escort to the survivors of the war who are being honored by the citizens of the county of Sumter.

4. That a banquet or dinner be served to the returned soldiers and sailors, to be served on the Monumental Square at such time as may be suitable in connection with the parade.

Dr. E. S. Booth, president of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce, was designated as chairman of this banquet or dinner committee with Mrs. Horace Harby and Mrs. Nina Solomons. Those three to select any others they see fit to serve as members of this committee. This committee to be clothed with full powers to act.

5. That the presidents of the banks of the county of Sumter be the committee on finance, with Mr. Neill O'Donnell, as chairman, and Mr. L. D. Jennings as vice chairman, Mr. J. P. Booth, secretary and treasurer, to raise the necessary funds, and to supervise the expenditure thereof.

A general discussion of the suggestion made by the committee that steps be taken at once to create some permanent memorial in honor of the soldiers who fell in service resulted in the decision to leave this matter in the hands of Mr. A. C. Phelps who was requested several months ago by the Chamber of Commerce to organize a committee and inaugurate a movement to establish such a memorial. Mr. Phelps has full power to select a committee that will represent every section of the county and with the endorsement of the mass meeting he will undertake this work with the assurance of success.

## Eargle Case Settled

## Sumter Lighting Company Pays \$24,000 and Costs in Settlement of Thirty Thousand Verdict

The case of Mrs. E. M. Eargle vs. the Sumter Lighting Company, suit to recover damages for the death of A. W. Eargle who lost his life while in the employ of the Sumter Lighting Company by coming into contact with a live wire, was settled a few days ago by the payment of \$24,000 and costs. This case has been in the courts for about two years. The trial resulted in a verdict of \$20,000, and the Sumter Lighting Company appealed to the Supreme Court. The case was on the docket of the Supreme Court for hearing at the April term, but when the attorneys of the company offered a compromise settlement it was accepted, and twenty-four thousand dollars and costs were paid over to R. D. Epps, Esq., who represented Mrs. Eargle and conducted the trial of the case to a successful conclusion.

## County Board Reorganized

## County Commissioners Under Authority of Act of Recent Legislature Inaugurate Progressive Campaign

The Board of County Commissioners at the regular monthly meeting held Tuesday inaugurated a progressive program for the management of the business affairs of the county that should result in revolutionizing and bringing up to date the methods of road construction and maintenance.

The action taken was under and by authority of the act of the recent session of the legislature which abolishes the office of County Supervisor at the expiration of the term of Supervisor White, and in the meantime places the Supervisor under the direction of the County Board. The Board was reorganized by the election of Commissioner H. J. McLaurin, Jr., to serve as Chairman and Commissioner R. M. Oliver, vice chairman. Mr. R. F. McLelland was elected County Engineer and the entire management of the chaingang, jail, poor house, the supervision of road building and maintenance and the performance of practically all other duties heretofore performed by the Supervisor were delegated to him by formal resolution. A finance committee composed of Commissioners J. J. Britton, B. M. Oliver and H. J. McLaurin, Jr., was selected and a resolution was adopted that no bills be paid, except after being audited and approved by the Board.

The Board decided to take immediate steps to obtain the funds available from the Federal Government for road construction, and as soon as this arrangement has been consummated the construction of a section of permanent highway will be started. As a preliminary to this work a survey of the proposed new road will be made by the State Highway Commission and the work will be planned and carried out under specifications approved by the road engineers of the Federal Government and the State Highway Commission. This road work will be done by contract so that the exact cost and the character of the work will be guaranteed before a shovel full of dirt is moved. It is the purpose of the Board to have this permanent work done so that the roads built now will ultimately link up with a system of highways in the county and form a part of the State Highway system. Haphazard work will be discontinued and road construction will be done with a view to permanence and as a part of a system. Repair and maintenance work will be planned and supervised by the County Engineer and the foundation of road work in Sumter county will hereafter be intelligent engineering and substantial construction and thorough drainage.

The plans of the Board while not yet fully developed, contemplate the projected rebuilding of the public road between Sumter and Mayesville, for the reason that the roads in the eastern

section of the county are in much worse condition than those in the western and further for the reason that the amount of travel between Sumter and Mayesville, the two largest towns in the county, necessitates a good highway of a permanent character. This section of the road will be a part of the State Highway system, connecting Sumter with Florence and the Pee Dee section and the work now done will help forward the movement to develop a State system of highways.

A joint meeting of the County Board and the Legislative delegation will be held next Tuesday to consider the financial status of the county and to devise ways and means to raise the fund necessary for the county to appropriate for permanent highway construction before the Federal appropriation can be obtained. The county still has something more than \$20,000 of the good roads bond issue authorized several years ago, but this must be supplemented from some source, as Federal government will spend dollar for dollar up to \$60,000. It begins to look as if something will be done now to give Sumter county better roads.

## Death.

Mrs. A. E. Dixon, wife of Mr. Rufus O. Dixon, died at 2.30 a. m. Tuesday at her home at 28 Blanding St., this city. The body was taken from her residence at 9.30 Wednesday morning and carried to Bishopville for interment. The funeral service were held at Bishopville Methodist church at 11.30 a. m. She is survived by her husband and her son, Dr. R. Herbert Dixon, of Philadelphia; her daughters, Mrs. Mamie McKagen, Misses Elma, Ruth and Rosamode Dixon, Mrs. Nettie Barnes and Mrs. Ethel Stuckey, also her sister, Mrs. Mary L. Stuckey and her brother, Mr. Charles L. Stuckey, of Bishopville, Mr. T. S. Stuckey, of Stateburg and Mr. A. B. Stuckey of this city.

The two story residence of Rev. J. C. Lomax, colored, on Edwards street, was badly damaged by fire Tuesday. The fire department was called out about 12.30 o'clock and when the truck and hose wagon arrived the greater part of the roof was ablaze and the house appeared to be doomed. Two streams were turned on and by hard work at close quarters the firemen succeeded in confining the fire to the roof. The entire roof will have to be replaced and the upper part of the house was considerably damaged.

## Fire Department Busy.

The fire department has been kept busy the last few days. The big cotton platform fire Saturday called for a lot of work, and Sunday night a negro tenant house in the Grier street section was burned. Monday afternoon a garage on the premises occupied by Mr. E. B. Cole on North Salem avenue was burned. While this fire was in progress a spark ignited the roof of Mr. R. S. Churchill's residence on West Hampden avenue. The damage here was not great.

## Presbyterian Auxiliary.

Harmony Presbyterian Auxiliary will meet April 8th and 9th in the Indiantown church, Williamsburg county. All Societies and churches in the Presbytery are requested to send delegates. If possible please send names at once to Mr. T. M. Cooper, Fowler, S. C.

The delegates will be met at Kingstree, the morning of the 8th and carried to the church in automobiles.

Rev. S. D. Winn of Chunju, Korea, will be the speaker Tuesday.

On Wednesday Mrs. S. C. Hodges of Greenwood, and Mrs. S. L. Leiby of Charleston will be the speakers.

It is earnestly desired that every church will be represented.

(Signed) Miss Bettie Aycock,  
Recording Secretary.

## Pisgah News and Views.

Pisgah, March 31.—The fine weather for the last two weeks has enabled the farmers to make good progress on their farms. Corn has been planted and some are ready to plant cotton. The small grain crop is growing real well. Fully one-third of the cotton acreage in this section has been cut and this has been done without any pledges or being waited on. The item did not hit those who refuse to reduce their cotton acreage one-third a lick amiss. I am surprised to know that there lives in this country such people. Hope they will live to see the folly of their unpatriotic conduct in refusing to aid a worthy cause.

Gov. Cooper did right not to call an extra session of the legislature and save the taxpayers another expense. The members were there long enough to pass all needed legislation. More work was done in twenty-five days, when Simmons and Irbey were speakers than is now done in forty days. Then members worked and not wasted their time.

The peace terms seem hard to get ready. If some people here are ready to entangle their country in the broils of Europe they are entitled to their opinion, but this writer is not.

Miss Hattie Hatfield of Cassett spent a few days here quite recently. Her many friends were glad to see her.

Miss Lula Baker returned home last week and her many friends were glad to see her.

Miss Sadie Rogers spent last week with her sister, Mrs. Leon Stuckey.

Miss Madge Rogers went to Bishopville Saturday.

The convicts who escaped from the State Farm last week stole a car here Friday night and went on towards Bishopville. The car is a new one and was found below Spring Hill badly damaged. The convicts have gone on.

I am going to Columbia today and if I see anything worth telling will let you know.

Dover, Eng. Mar. 3.—In the whole period of the war the famous Dover Patrol of destroyers convoyed 125, 100 merchant vessels with the loss of only 73. Of these 62,400 passed northward, 25,500 westward and 36,200 across the English Channel.

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## Announcement

I beg to announce that I have purchased the Jewelry business formerly conducted by my father the late L. W. Folsom, and will continue the business at the same stand, No. 101 N. Main Street

It is my intention to conduct the most up to date jewelry, optical and repair business in Eastern Carolina and every department will be as complete as modern methods permit.

I will appreciate a continuance of the patronage enjoyed by this business for many years

J. B. FOLSOM

A. C. L. Watch Inspector

Sumter, South Carolina

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